

Application Serial No. 10/606,209
Attorney's Docket No.:06618-476003

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the above-referenced application are respectfully requested.

The drawings stand objected to as not showing various claimed features. Taking the last feature first, the first and second pumps in opposite directions are shown clearly in figure 5. However, the undersigned agrees that the cylindrical rod with bumps with rounded edges described in paragraph 26 are not shown. A new figure 6 is added herein to show this.

The grooves in both figures 1 and 4 are each shown, however, with grooves where some portions are deeper than others. In figure 1, the grooves are round, which means that the portions nearest the edge are less deep, and portions further as from the edge are more deep. Figure 4 shows grooves that are less rounded, but again has less deep portions and more deep portions.

The objections to the specifications and claims are addressed herein.

Page 7, line 11 has been amended to include the word "have."

The typographical error in claim 6 has been corrected which should obviate the objections based on new matter. The same

Application Serial No. 10/606,209
Attorney's Docket No.:06618-476003

change has been made to claim 9, which should again obviate the objection.

Claims 12-14 and 16 describe the grooves having portions with a deeper part and a less deep part. This is clearly shown in for example figure 1 which shows that the grooves have varying depth locations.

Claim 15 has been canceled to obviate the rejections thereto.

Claims 26 and 27 are clearly disclosed with reference to figure 5 and in paragraph 29.

The informality noted in claim 27 has also been corrected herein. The informalities noted in claims 6 and 9 are corrected as part of the operations noted above.

Claims 1-8, 10-16, 18-20 and 22-25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Luijten et al. This contention is respectfully traversed.

Luijten et al teaches a system used to form a molecular pump. A molecular pump operates to compress gas, and discharge the gas. See for example column 2, lines 41-45. Nowhere is there any disclosure, however, of causing a laminar outward flow in a fluid. Quite simply, this is not disclosed by Luijten et al. Moreover, Luijten et al does not disclose directing that flow along the grooves in the second element. Luijten discloses

Application Serial No. 10/606,209
Attorney's Docket No.:06618-476003

a molecular pump which compresses fluid, but nowhere is there disclosure of the subject matter defined by the method of claim 2. Therefore, since Luijten et al never discloses causing a laminar outward flow in the fluid and directing the flow along the grooves to pump the fluid along the grooves, claim 2 should be allowable along with the claims that depend therefrom.

Claim 5 further defines increasing the force of pumping by increasing the speed of rotation. This is not disclosed by Luijten et al. Claim 9 was not rejected over any art in the case, and should presumably be allowable. Claim 10 defines the fluid as being blood, which is not disclosed by Luijten et al. Claim 11 defines that the method being used for propulsion which again is not disclosed by Luijten et al, which only teaches discharging compressed gas.

Claim 12 defines that the grooves have a more deep portion and a less deep portion. This is not disclosed by Luijten et al whose grooves are shown in cross-section in figure 2, and all portions of which are equally deep. Therefore, claim 12 should be allowable along with the claims that depend therefrom. Claim 14, for example, define rotating by inducing a magnetic field. This is not disclosed by the cited prior art. Claim 17 defines that the rotatable element has bumps on its outer surface which again is not disclosed by the prior art.

Application Serial No. 10/606,209
Attorney's Docket No.: 06618-476003

Claim 18 defines pumping the fluid by rotating a central shaft in an area of the grooves. Luijten et al only teaches pressurizing the fluid, and therefore does not disclose the subject matter of claim 18. Therefore, claim 18 should be allowable along with the claims that depend therefrom.

Claim 20 should be specifically allowable as it defines magnetically rotating shaft. Claim 21 was not rejected over prior art and should be allowable. Claim 22 defines that the fluid is blood, which is not disclosed by Luijten et al.

Claims 26 and 27 are not rejected over any art in the case, and should presumably be allowable.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, therefore, all of the claims should be in condition for allowance. A formal notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed in this paper. However, failure to address a specific rejection, issue or comment, does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above are not intended to be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent

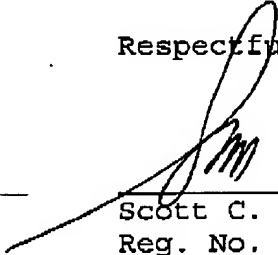
Application Serial No. 10/606,209
Attorney's Docket No.: 06618-476003

to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

Please apply any charges or credits to Deposit Account
No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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Application Serial No. 10/606,209
Attorney's Docket No.:06618-476003

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached new sheet of drawings includes a new Fig. 6.

A new Figure 6 has been added to show the cylindrical rod with pumps with rounded edges described in paragraph 26.

Attachments following last page of this Amendment:

New Sheet (1 page)